

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the claims and their status as of this Amendment is as follows:

1-9 (Cancelled)

10.(currently amended) A device for filling containers with perishable material, comprising a filling station having within a clean room in which the containers are filled and closed by a closure in a ~~closing~~ closure station within said clean room, ~~and~~ a first cleaning lock for the containers configured such that the containers are cleaned prior to entering the clean room, and a second cleaning lock for the closures configured such that the closures are cleaned prior to entering the clean room.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (previously presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein at least one of the first and second cleaning locks comprises a cleaning device selected from the group consisting of a blasting device and a gasification device.

13. (previously presented) The device according to claim 12, wherein the blasting device blasts an object to be cleaned with at least one of the group consisting of a liquid, UV radiation, radioactive radiation and gas.

14. (previously presented) The device according to claim 13, wherein the gas is ozone.

15. (currently amended) The device according to claim 10, further comprising a cleaning station downstream from the filling station for cleaning the exterior of filled and closed containers.

16. (currently amended) The device according to claim 15, wherein the cleaning station is in located within the clean room.

17. (previously presented) A device for filling bottles comprising:  
a clean room having a filling station for receiving bottles and for filling the bottles with minimal contamination; and  
a first cleaning lock disposed in communication with the clean room for cleaning bottles prior to filling.

18. (previously presented) The device according to claim 17, further comprising a second lock for cleaning closures prior to the closures entering the clean room and being disposed on the containers.

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19. (currently amended) The device according to claim 17, further comprising a cleaning station for cleaning the exterior of filled and closed containers disposed in the clean room.

20. (currently amended) A method for filling containers comprising:  
introducing ~~the~~ containers to be filled into a first cleaning lock;  
transferring the containers from the first cleaning lock into a clean room; and  
filling the containers while in the clean room.

21. (previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the method comprises cleaning the containers in the first cleaning lock.

22. (previously presented) The method according to claim 20, further comprising introducing closures for closing the containers into a second cleaning lock and transferring the closures from the second cleaning lock into the clean room.

23. (previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the method further comprises closing the containers in the clean room.

24. (previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the method comprises cleaning the containers in the first cleaning lock with at least one cleaning device selected from the group consisting of a blasting device and a gasification device.

25. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24, wherein the method comprises blasting the containers with at least one of the group consisting of liquid, UV radiation, radioactive radiation and gas.

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26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the method comprises cleaning the closures in the second cleaning lock with at least one cleaning device selected from the group consisting of a blasting device and a gasification device.

27. (previously presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein the method comprises blasting the containers with at least one of the group consisting of liquid, UV radiation, radioactive radiation and gas.

28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the method comprises introducing the containers from the first cleaning lock and introducing the closures from a second cleaning lock and filling and closing the containers while in the clean room.

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